

EASY LESSONS IN DRAWING

By FREDERICK RICHARDSON

(Instructor in Composition and in Charge of Illustration Classes in the Art Institute, Chicago.)

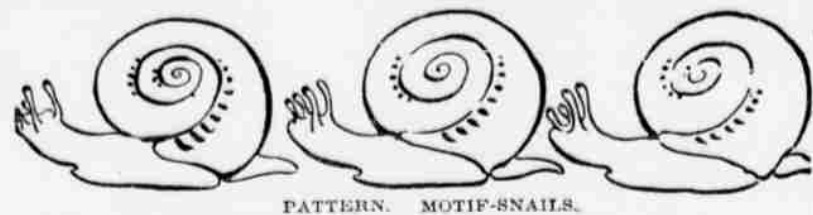
(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

The present article is intended to give an application of the foregoing use of symbol forms to decorative treatment. Decoration is to be understood as the application of form, line or color to surface for its beautification. The form, line or color is appropriate for such application which is considered for the especial use of the surface or object offering a chance for decoration.

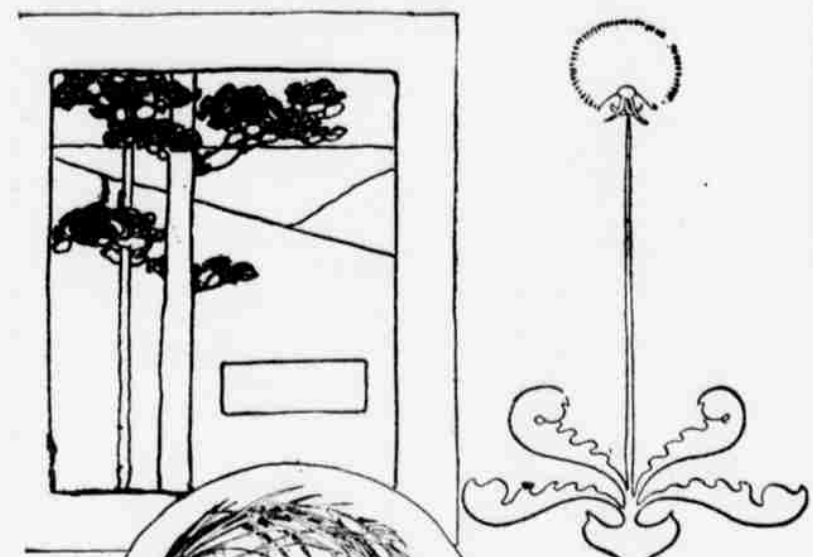
Taste in Decoration.
In other words, taste dictates what presentation of a selected form should

that the decorative is the higher order of artistic expression is not for discussion here. What is presented here is the application of such material as has been cultivated to decorative purposes as defined.

How Material Is Used.
If, taking the band of snails, we were to present one snail with natural setting for consideration, it would probably under that condition be regarded as a more or less realistic picture of a snail, but if we take the snail as a motif, regarding its form



PATTERN. MOTIF-SNAILS.



DECORATIVE TREATMENT OF NATURAL FORMS. VIOLETS—LANDSCAPE—DANDELION—GRASSES.



HER BOOK
A CHILD'S BOOK PLATE.

be chosen for the given place for decoration. As taste is a variable point of view, differing in time and with peoples, the fixture of any point of view is open to dispute. Criteria of taste may be fixed for a certain people by the classics of that people. A broad catholicity of taste is able to recognize the good in the art of any people, but that is not fixing the style for any of them. Anyone familiar with the widely differing decorative principles of the Orientals or the changes of style that European art have undergone will understand this.

The teacher who discovers in cer-

as one showing grace of line and repeat it under artificial conditions, that is, not giving it natural surroundings and individual consideration, but making a pattern or band of its multiplied form, we have arrived at its decorative possibilities. One snail might be a picture of a snail, the same snail repeated results in a form of decoration. The same is the case with the violet band. The small arguments that may dispute this are waived as immaterial to the present intention. A single form, as the dandelion, becomes a conventionalized one, and as such, material for certain styles of decoration, when it is multiplied and made to obey certain laws of symmetry which the natural flower would not serve. A naturalistic presentation may be equally serviceable for another form of decorative use, as the bunch of grasses, obeying by natural inclination the shape of the round in which it is placed. There the selection of quantity and the proportions of the whole space supply the decorative element.

The Japanese show us how a natural form may obey decorative treatment. The landscape by well considered spaces and reduction to few planes also serves in half-realistic decoration.

It will be seen from the example shown that all unnecessary details and gradations of tone have been sacrificed to this giving of a few well-shaped masses that cut the whole space into pleasant and unconventional proportions. In such arrangement the allotment of color will be seen to be arbitrary as far as local color is concerned, and is used only

to obtain a decorative balance. Of course where it is so contrived as to represent the actual local color or marking ingenuity of design is gained. Book Plate Designs.

The child's book plate is a figure motif given with freedom of line and almost natural treatment, relying upon the symmetrical rendering of the whole mass to give it the character its purpose demands.

It is suggested to give the child forms and spaces to fill with decoration from motives to be decided upon or to be left to the child's selection. Try to direct the child's taste in the way of the big and simple. Guard against a too realistic or overworked rendition, and, where possible keep before the child good models, which in these days of a wider and broader appreciation of esthetics ought not to be so scarce.

TO QUIT HOWLING DOGS.

Efforts of Legal Minds to Devise Remedy for Disturbers of the Peace.

The devising of adequate remedies against disturbances of the public peace by howling dogs and meowing cats has never been regarded as an easy proposition. The framing of a legal provision to do away with the cause of such disturbances taxed for a time the minds of those who drew up the present sanitary code. The last clause of this code, section 180, is as follows:

No person, owning, occupying or having charge of any building or premises shall keep or allow thereon or therein any animal or bird, which shall by noise disturb the quiet or repose of any person therein or in the vicinity, to the detriment of the life or health of any human being.

The disturbance of the peace caused by an "animal or bird," a dog, a cat, a parrot or a crow, may justify legal intervention if detrimental to "the life or health of any human being"—which it seldom is. Sleep may be prevented by the disturbance caused by a dog without its being directly detrimental either to life or health, and it is this clause of the sanitary code which gave the most trouble to those who devised it.

It was at one time proposed that this provision of the sanitary code should include the protection of citizens on "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," but while that had a patriotic ring, it fell short of fulfilling the requirements of courts that a provision of law involving a penalty should be at least reasonable. The sanitary code fails, therefore, to cover what is perhaps the most frequent cause of complaint over the disturbance of the peace by animal or bird—a noise which interrupts repose, without being at the same time detrimental either to life or to health.

SILENCED THE CRITICS.

When the Truth Came Out the Schoolgirl Had the Laugh on Them.

It is a rather unsafe experiment to criticize a literary effort unless one knows all about it. The other evening a schoolgirl went into the library where the family were assembled, to read what they supposed to be her latest composition. It was a description of a night in the woods, and when the schoolgirl read that the sky was a glossy blue-black, an artist sister interrupted her to say, gently:

"Oh, my dear, that's all wrong! Now, think: did you ever see the sky when it was glossy?"

But the schoolgirl only smiled and read on.

She referred to a drink of water as a "cold inward aspersion," and the room resounded with the laughter of her relatives as they set her right as to the use of "aspersion," as they understood the word. This the schoolgirl also took with unusual imperturbability; indeed, she read on until she had finished, and then she added, meekly: "Will it do?"

"Certainly not," replied the critics. "It is very, very bad. There is a perceptible straining after effect. It is not nearly so good as the clever little things you usually write about 'Honor' and 'Industry.' You should keep to abstract subjects. Try to improve on what you have written, however, and it may do."

"I don't think I shall," responded the schoolgirl, with a wicked smile on her plump little face, "because this was written by Robert Louis Stevenson. It's a chapter from one of his books, and I don't believe I could improve on it—yet."

"Dude" from "Duds."

When Oliver Hazard Perry Belmont was in the house he was sometimes called "Tamman's Dude Congressman," and now an authority avers that "dude" is an English word, and was first heard on the streets and in the theaters of London in 1881 in connection with affectations in dress and manners. It is a revival of the colonial word "duds," meaning clothing, and is associated with "dudery," a place where old clothes or rags were bought and sold.

Speculative.

Rachel—Here is your ring, Solomon. I can never marry you, for I love another.

Solomon—Vere iss de man you lof? Vot las his name?

Rachel—Goodness, Solomon! you won't kill him?

Solomon—No; I will sell him der ring sheaf.

WHERE ROLLS THE OREGON

Region Where Everyone Is Judged by His Ability to Grow Fruit.

There's the cooperative idea in the valley. You can see it when the directors of the Fruit Growers' union hold their weekly meeting in the little shed which forms their headquarters, says Harris Lloyd, in Outing Magazine. Here Chris and Hank and Ned and Jim sit on apple boxes or the manager's desk or lean against the window sill while they discuss the business the manager presents to them. They are merely the half dozen growers who have been selected to settle the question of prices for the community and where to ship the harvest. They suggest to the manager what they think is best, then hurry away to finish up picking or spraying or whatever else there is on hand, leaving him to do the rest. Sometimes there's the question about the best kind of fruit to send to a certain place. Will it stand the climate? Will it keep long enough?

"Let us leave it to Old Man Tucker," says Hank.

In comes the old man. Coatless, his blue shirt unbuttoned at the throat, his features literally gnarled by the 60 years he has been making the good give him a living. He doesn't look exactly like a man who can tell the nice points of an apple as the palmist tells the lines of your hand, but his word is the final judgment, for he has never erred yet. Ask who he is and you hear: "Why, he's the one whose Newtown pippins are so good that they go to Europe." And beside him the college graduate, even the mayor, has to take a back seat. Here in the valley he is one of the biggest men, even if he does come to town in his shirt sleeves and rides a bicycle because he hasn't time to "hitch up." Everybody is as good as his neighbor—good enough to be called by his first name. No matter where one has come from or how high his former standing, here he is measured by one thing—his ability to grow fruit.

THE MAGYARS IN HUNGARY

How the Emperor Brought the Refractory Element to His Terms.

The New York Times thus elucidates the recent triumph of the old emperor of Austria-Hungary over the refractory Magyars by his threat of introducing manhood suffrage. They have acquiesced in his autocratic rule in the army because of it. The threat was the subjection of the ruling classes in Hungary to the majority of the population through manhood suffrage. This says the Times:

"Of the 45,000,000 population of Austria and Hungary, some 12,000,000 are Germans, and about 9,000,000 are Magyars. The Germans are, though a minority in Austria, the most influential element, as are the Magyars in Hungary. The immediate cause of the recent trouble was the claim of the Hungarians that their language should be used in the words of command addressed to the Hungarian troops in the imperial army. In both Austria and Hungary the conditions of suffrage—property qualification and the right of persons in certain occupations to vote, together with the concentration of powers in the upper branches of the parliament—give to the Germans in Austria and to the Magyars in Hungary a decided advantage. It was the possible withdrawal in part of this advantage that induced the present 'compromise.' The solution is extremely satisfactory so far as the immediate future is concerned. But it is plain that an element has been introduced in the government of the two nations that may produce serious changes. The idea of manhood suffrage once lodged in the popular mind is not easily dismissed from it."

Democracy Various Defined.

There are various definitions of the word democracy. Greece is often, and not unreasonably, called the most democratic country in Europe, yet it has a king and shows no sign of wishing to get rid of him. Kossuth was the leader of the Hungarian "democracy" in seeking to establish a republic, but the Magyars are among the most aristocratic of people. England remains loyal to her hereditary monarchy, yet is in some respects actually more democratic than America. So these constitutional democrats in Russia are not aiming at the immediate establishment of a republic, and they are not likely to organize an attack upon the crown or upon the monarchical principle. They are striving for a constitutional system under which the people will have a voice in the government, and that is something which they now seem reasonably sure of attaining by peaceful and amicable means.—N. Y. Tribune.

Japanese Watch Contractors.

By night or by day, whenever an order is in course of execution for the Japanese government, there in the workshop is the representative of Japan supervising, testing, rejecting all that is not above the slightest suspicion of defect or flaw. When relieved by his colleague he does not rush out like a schoolboy from school, as if relieved from an irksome task. The twin observe together until the newcomer has picked up the threads and can apply himself as minutely as his predecessor to the details of the business. Indefatigable and incorruptible, working heart and mind for the honor of Japan, these watchdogs of the mikado have contributed, unseen but collectively, to the overwhelming triumph of their country.

Why the Light Went Up.

Many of the houses in South London are supplied with gas on the penny-in-the-slot system.

Soon after the doors of a suburban theater opened the other evening, a little girl of about six years of age and her elder sister took their seats in the pit.

The little one had been prattling away for some time when the footlights were turned up. Upon seeing the sudden increase of light, she remarked loudly to her sister:

"Look, Nellie, they've just put another penny in the slot!"—Royal Magazine.

A Careful Girl.

"I hope, Jennie, that you have given the matter serious consideration," said a lady to a servant girl who had "given notice" because she was to be married "that day two weeks."

"Oh, I have, ma'am," was the earnest reply. "I have been to two fortune tellers and a clairvoyant, and looked in a sign book, and dreamt on a lock of his hair, and been to one of those astrologers, and to a palmist, and they all say to go ahead, ma'am. I ain't one to marry reckless like, ma'am."—Royal Magazine.

Hope.

"How cheerful you look this morning, dear," said the sick man as his wife bustled about the room. "You act as if you thought I were going to get well."

"Ah, dearest," she answered, turning to press her lips upon his brow, "hope has returned to me. The surgeon who was to perform the operation fell last night and broke his arm."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Didn't Suit.

Mother—Well, did you get that situation as office boy?

Little Son—Nope.

"What was the matter?"

"Don't know. The gent is a lawyer, and he asked me if I was a good whistler and I told him I was the best whistler on our street, and he said I wouldn't do. Guess he must want a regular professional."—N. Y. Weekly.

Quite Correct.

"I'm going to celebrate my wouldn't wedding to-morrow," remarked the commercial traveler.

"You mean your wooden wedding, don't you?" said the merchant.

"No, I mean just what I said," was the reply. "It will be exactly five years to-morrow since I asked a girl in Brighton to marry me, and she said she wouldn't."—Cassell's Journal.

Just the Opposite.

Celia—Charlie didn't hesitate to give his age as his reason for refusing that old millionaire.

Della—Told him to his face he was too old, eh?

"Not at all. He promised to love and cherish her till death, and she told him he was too young."—Cassell's Journal.

Mother Goose in Jest.

The cow was jumping over the moon.

"Oh, prunes!" exclaimed the little dog, when he had finished laughing. "I bet some one tooted an automobile behind her."

And the cat was so tickled he stopped playing the fiddle.—Chicago Daily News.

Observant.

Willie—Your big sister's engaged to Mr. Mugley, ain't she?

Mamie—No; an' I guess she don't want to be.

Willie—Why?

Mamie—Cause she knowed he was comin' to-night an' she eat onions for supper.—Philadelphia Press.

The Insecure Season.

The time draws near when no one knows just when to shake his winter clothes; for if you wear 'em you feel bad, and if you don't you wish you had.—Judge.

A SOLDIER'S OBSERVATION.



She—I think a woman has as much endurance as a man.

He—Well, I'm certainly surprised sometimes to see how much some women can bare.

Rainy Daisies.

Little springtime showers, little drops of rain, and the children's noises flattened 'gainst the pane.

Their Status.

Knicker—What becomes of the children in case of a divorce?

Bocker—They occupy much the same position as the public in a coal strike.—N. Y. Sun.

Improved Dialect.

Knicker—So he expects his novel to make a big hit?

Bocker—Yes; every character stutters in simplified spelling.—N. Y. Sun.

Not Likely.

"Arry—Wot does 'Not transferable' mean on this ticket?"

Pat—Sure, it means that you won't be admitted if ye don't go yerself.

A Family Trait.

"If I engage you, you will have to tell people sometimes that I am out when I am at home. Do you understand?" said the lady about to engage a new maid.

"Perfectly," said the applicant. "I'm not opposed to lying occasionally."

"What references have you?"

"I have a brother in the weather clerk's office, ma'am."—Tit-Bits.

A Satisfactory Condition.

"My invention will increase your income by millions," said the mechanical genius.

"I don't want my income increased," answered Mr. Dustin Stax. "It is exactly right as it is; big enough to buy everything I want and small enough to keep grand juries from being inquisitive."—Washington Star.

Bless You, My Children!

"What makes you believe the millennium is on the way?"

"Why, I hear the Ladies' Reading club elected an entirely new set of officers yesterday without a scrap, with out the least feeling of bitterness anywhere, in fact."—Houston Post.

Easy to Inspect.

If I were building autos I think that I'd, instead, build them with their seats underneath. Their works up overhead.—Houston Post.

THE "OPEN CAR SEASON."



If anyone wants the end seat he can have it. "I'm no hog."—N. Y. Her.

Literary Taste.

Mary read a little Lamb, and yawned. "The dullest feller. Ever!" Then took her card and drew the latest six-best-seller.—Puck.

Her Wish.

"The automobile will yet put the horse out of business," said the motor enthusiast.

"I wish it would hurry up," answered young Mrs. Torkins. "It would save Charley a lot of trouble with the bookmakers."—Washington Star.

A Distinction.

"What is your opinion on this question?" asked the friend.

"Let us understand each other," rejoined Senator Sorghum; "do you want my opinion or do you want to know how I am going to vote?"—Washington Star.

Bad Break.

Polite Floorwalker—What can we show you to-day, lady?

Mrs. Finnicky—For goodness sake, my man, don't call me "lady!"

Polite Floorwalker—Excuse me—I see now that I was mistaken.—Cleveland Leader.

Back Seats in Favor.

Patience—I suppose your brother is always late at church?

Patience—On the contrary, he always goes very early. He wants to be sure of getting a back seat.—Yonkers Statesman.

A Tragedy.

Suddenly the tramp crept forth from the shadow of the barn and in an instant was bathed in moonlight.

It was well. Also his first.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Regular Habits.

"There's one good thing about my boy—you can always tell what he'll do next."

"And what's that, usually?"

"Nothing."—Cleveland Leader.

Local Pride.

"What kind of a climate have you?" asked the visitor.

"Well," answered the native, "I can say this much for it. It isn't monotonous."—Washington Star.

The Millionaire's Privilege.

"Papa, won't you buy me a cute little puppy?"

"Wait till you're a few years older, daughter, and I'll buy you one with a title."—Cleveland Leader.

In Evidence.

Gray—You don't agree, then, that "seeing is believing?"

White—Not much! I see some people every day that I never could believe.—Cassell's Journal.

Measuring Gas.

Church—Gas is always measured by the foot, is it not?

Gotham—No; sometimes I think it is measured by the imagination.—Yonkers Statesman.

Accounted For.

Mrs. Church—Isn't she well preserved? How do you account for it?

Mrs. Gotham—Cold storage. She's from Boston, you know.—Yonkers Statesman.

Feeling Important.

"What makes poorman act so cheery?"

"Why, a newspaper has suggested that he be investigated."—Houston Post.